GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7191
ANSWERED ON:12.05.2000
EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS
AVTAR SINGH BHADANA;HARIBHAU MAHALE

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum and value of Indian agricultural products exported during the last three years;

(b) the countries to which exported during the above period; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to boost the export of agricultural products?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) & (b): The value of total agro items exported including marine products, tea, coffee, castor oil and cotton including waste during the last three years is as below:

1997-98	Rs.24626.16 crores
1998-99	Rs.25224.63 crores
1999-2000 (April-Dec.)	Rs.18207.80 crores

Source: DGCI&S

The details of quantity & value of each of the agricultural products and the countries to which exported during the last three years are available in monthly/annual number of foreign trade statistics of India published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), Calcuta copies of which are placed in the Parliament Library.

(c) The steps being taken to boost the export of agricultural products include:

1. Providing assistance for raising small and large nurseries for production of good quality planting material, upgradation of technical knowhow to farmers through demonstrations, trainings and publicity, rejuvenation of old orchards, area expansion, supply of minikits for vegetables, improving productivity and training of farmers.

2. Grant of financial assistance for improved packaging, strengthening of quality control and modernization of processing units.

3. Establishment of vapour heat treatment facilities for eliminating pest incubation in the product especially the mangoes for gaining access to overseas markets.

4. Grant of Air Freight Subsidy for exports of floricultural items and select fresh fruits and vegetables.

5. Arranging promotional campaigns such as buyer-seller meets and participation in important international fairs and exhibitions.

6. Setting up of integrated cargo handling and cold storage facilities at various International Airports for handling export of perishable items such as flowers, fresh fruits and vegetables.

7. Providing assistance in development of data base and dissemination of market information.

8. Providing assistance for setting up of laboratories for testing of products to ensure quality, eliminating contamination & ensuring freedom from fungi and bacteria.